



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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CORN YIELD PROSPECTS DOWN FROM 2005

Columbia, S.C., August 11, 2006: Based on August 1 conditions, South Carolina's 2006 yield was down from a year ago for corn and cotton, while peanuts, soybeans and tobacco were up, according to the USDA NASS South Carolina Field Office.

CORN production in 2006 is expected to total 26.7 million bushels, down 19 percent from last year. Expected yield per acre is estimated at 99 bushels. This is down 17 bushels from last year. Acreage for harvest as grain, at 270,000, is down 15,000 from 2005.

SOYBEAN production in 2006 is expected to total 10.4 million bushels, up 21 percent from last year. Expected yield per acre of 24 bushels is up 17 percent from a year ago. Acreage for harvest, at 435,000, is up 15,000 acres from 2005.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO production as of August 1, is forecast at 48.4 million pounds. This is up 15 percent from last year's production, but down 1.1 million pounds from last month. Yield per acre of 2,200 pounds is up 100 pounds from last year but down 50 pounds from the July forecast. Acreage for harvest, at 22,000, is up 2,000 acres from 2005.

COTTON production is forecast at 410,000 bales – unchanged from last year. The August 1 yield per acre is expected to average 660 pounds, down 83 pounds from last year. Acreage for harvest, at 298,000, is up 33,000 from 2005.

PEANUT production is forecast at 173.6 million pounds, up 3 percent from last year's production. Yield per acre, at 3,100 pounds, is up 300 pounds from 2005. Acreage for harvest, at 56,000 is down 4,000 acres from 2005.

UNITED STATES 2006 PRODUCTION AND PERCENT OF PREVIOUS YEAR

Corn	11.0	Bil. Bu	99%	Sorghum	296	Mil. Bu.	75%
Soybeans	2.93	Bil. Bu.	95%	Peanuts	3.26	Bil. Lbs.	68%
Tobacco, F.C.	464	Mil. Lbs.	121%	Hay	71	Mil. Tons	96%
Cotton, Upland	19.5	Mil. Bales	84%	Oats	125	Mil. Bu.	101%